

## House Resolution 267

By: Representatives Clark of the 147<sup>th</sup>, Bonner of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, Williams of the 168<sup>th</sup>, Glanton of the 75<sup>th</sup>, Blackmon of the 146<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 28, 2019, as National Guard Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense provides combat-ready military forces to  
4 Combatant Commanders and, upon the order of the Governor, provides personnel to support  
5 civilian authorities when responding to natural or man-made disasters; and

6 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense is headquartered at the Clay National Guard  
7 Center in Marietta, Georgia, and includes the Georgia Army National Guard, the Georgia Air  
8 National Guard, and the Georgia State Defense Force; and

9 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense consists of 10,890 Army National Guard  
10 Soldiers, 2,915 Air National Guard Airmen, 500 State Defense Force volunteers, and 650  
11 state employees; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is the eighth largest in the nation, trains in 70  
13 hometown armories and regional facilities across the state, and includes combat, combat  
14 support, and combat service support units; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is organized into five major subordinate  
16 commands which are the Macon based 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the Ellenwood  
17 based 78th Troop Command, the 648th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Fort Benning,  
18 and the 78th Aviation Troop Command and 201st Regional Support Group at the Clay  
19 National Guard Center in Marietta; and

20 WHEREAS, the Georgia Air National Guard is the air power component of the State of  
21 Georgia with 2,915 airmen and officers assigned to the 116th Air Control Wing in Warner  
22 Robins, the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah, and seven geographically separated units  
23 throughout Georgia; and

24 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Defense Force is a volunteer unit of the Georgia Department  
25 of Defense, providing emergency services and disaster response under direction of the  
26 Governor and the Adjutant General of Georgia; and

27 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Georgia National Guard deployed 3,500 Soldiers and Airmen to  
28 Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, Guantanamo Bay, Jordan, the Country of Georgia, Argentina,  
29 Germany, the Southwest border of the United States, and throughout all geographic  
30 commands in support of combat operations; and

31 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense responded to Hurricane Michael with 1,600  
32 personnel from the Georgia State Defense Force, the Army National Guard, and the Air  
33 National Guard; and

34 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard operates one of the most robust and successful  
35 Youth Challenge Programs with campuses at Fort Stewart, Fort Gordon, and Milledgeville,  
36 where over 16,500 high school dropouts have graduated and have been given opportunities  
37 to receive a high school diploma or general educational development diploma; in addition,  
38 Georgia's Youth Challenge Program has been instrumental in helping these young men and  
39 women secure a lasting future through assistance in employment opportunities for the recent  
40 graduates; and

41 WHEREAS, Georgia's Youth Challenge Academy has been augmented by the addition of  
42 the Job Challenge Academy, which accepts selected Youth Challenge graduates and provides  
43 them with six months of technical training in vocational programs and has graduated 311  
44 students, 51 of whom have joined the military; and

45 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding contributions of these  
46 extraordinary servicemen and servicewomen be appropriately recognized.

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
48 the members of this body commend the men and women of the Georgia Department of  
49 Defense for their selfless service to their state and nation and recognize March 28, 2019, as  
50 National Guard Day at the state capitol.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
52 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
53 Georgia Department of Defense.